

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re U.S. Patent Application of )  
HIGAKI et al. )  
Application Number: To be Assigned )  
Filed: Concurrently Herewith )  
For: STORAGE SYSTEM AND STORAGE CONTROL )  
DEVICE )  
Attorney Docket No. HITA.0508 )

Honorable Assistant Commissioner  
for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**REQUEST FOR PRIORITY  
UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 119  
AND THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION**

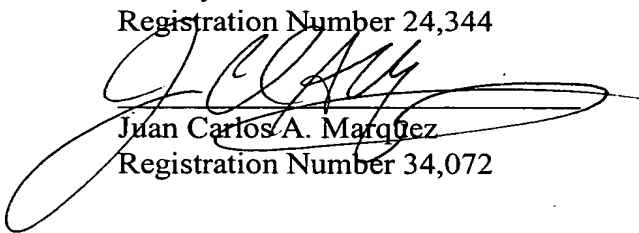
Sir:

In the matter of the above-captioned application for a United States patent, notice is hereby given that the Applicant claims the priority date of September 16, 2003, the filing date of the corresponding Japanese patent application 2003-323120.

A certified copy of Japanese patent application 2003-323120, will be submitted as soon as it is received from Applicant. Acknowledgment of receipt of the certified copy is respectfully requested in due course.

Respectfully submitted,

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